



A CASE STUDY.....

Constraints and training needs experienced by the rural women functioning in dairy farming practices

RUPENDER KAUR AND U.K. MEEL

ABSTRACT..... The dairying has been considered as a potential means of alleviating large scale unemployment, especially in rural areas. In order to increase the efficiency of Indian rural women, training in dairy farming practices is very necessary. It is the function of helping other to acquire and apply knowledge, skill abilities and attitude which to do not possess, but which are needed. The study was conducted five societies from randomly selected five blocks of Bikaner district of Rajasthan with 120 respondents were selected randomly with the help of probability proportion technique. Findings of the study shows that the location of Artificial insemination centres at distance places, feed and fodder requirement of crossbred cow is more than deshi cow, excessive burden of work and responsibility, rearing of crossbred cow is very costly and easy selling of milk to the vendors as compared to society were observed as very serious constraints and the training is essential for rural women to overcome the constraints in performing their major role in dairy farming practices.

KEY WORDS..... Constraints, Training needs, Experienced, Rural women functioning, Dairy farming practices

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INTRODUCTION.....

The dairying has been considered as a potential means of alleviating large scale unemployment, especially in rural areas. Management of livestock and milk production has been one of the sector in India where female work force participation is high. Rural women play a key role in animal, farm and home management. Successful dairy husbandry enterprise not only improves the socio-economic status of rural women, but also assures a sustained and assured means of income to supplement their income from the main enterprise. The

major activities involved in dairy farming include collection of fodder/cultivation of fodder, grazing the animals, feeding and watering, cleaning the animals and shed, milking and marketing of milk. In spite of their major role in dairy farming, women have been left out of the extension and training programme for their improvement and betterment. This results in keeping the productivity of milch animals at a low level. In order to increase the efficiency of Indian rural women, training in dairy farming practices is very necessary. It is the function of helping other to acquire and apply knowledge, skill abilities and

attitude which to do not possess, but which are needed. It brings continuous improvement in to quality of work performed by individuals.

Constraints imply the problems or difficulties faced by dairy farmers while adopting day-to-day animal husbandry practices in their dairy enterprise. Constraints refers to the forcible restriction and confinement of action. Constraints mean all those factors which hinder the adoption of dairy farming practices. The schedule was prepared for measuring the content of constraints experienced by the respondents and their training needs in dairy farming practices. Considering this view in mind the study was conducted in Bikaner district of Rajasthan with the objective to study the constraints and training needs expressed by farmers in the adoption of improved dairy farming practices.

RESEARCH METHODS.....

The present study was conducted all five blocks of Bikaner district of Rajasthan. Further, five societies were selected randomly, one society from the each block. The respondents were selected randomly with the help of probability proportion technique. Thus, total 120 respondents constitute the sample size. Data were collected from the respondents through well structured interview schedule by employing face to face interview technique. Thereafter, data were analyzed, tabulated and inferences were drawn in the light of study.

It is therefore necessary to investigate the Constraints and Training Needs Experienced by the Rural Women Functioning in Dairy Farming Practices. The investigation was therefore carried out with the following objectives:

Objectives of the study :

- To study the areas of training needs of dairy practicing women.
- To study the constraints faced by the women in performing dairy farming activities.

RESEARCH FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS.....

The results obtained from the present investigation as well as relevant discussion have been summarized under the following heads :

Infra structure constraints :

Among the various constraints pertaining to infra-

structure preference for natural services. Location of Artificial insemination centres at distance places was perceived as the most important constraint by the members, as evident by its high mean score (2.79). Second most important constraint with respect to infrastructure, dairy co-operative society is far away from home, it was ranked second most important constraint mean score (2.58). Non-availability of green fodder throughout the year was ranked as third important constraint by members mean score (2.37). Feeding problem to dairy animals during scarcity condition like draught was ranked as fifth mean score (2.03) (Table 1).

Technical constraints :

Lack of knowledge about breeding, feeding and management practices was appeared as first constraint (MS 2.30). Susceptibility of crossbred cows to disease was ranked as second (MS 2.13). Milk of crossbred cows has poor consumer acceptability was appeared as third rank (MS 2.07). Ignorance of farmers about clean milk production was assigned as fourth rank (MS 2.03). Poor adaptability of crossbred cows in local climate conditions was observed as least important constrains as it was ranked fifth (MS 1.86).

Socio-psychological :

Among the socio-psychological constraints faced by the members, Excessive burden of work and responsibility was observed as very important constraint as it gained first rank (MS 2.37). Lack of co-ordination and co-operation among members was ranked second by members (MS 2.32). The third rank was assigned to the labour recruitment for crossbred animals is more as compared to deshi animals (MS 2.12). Poor perception of co-operative philosophy resulting in irregular meeting was observed as fourth rank (MS 2.2). Non-cooperative attitude of family members was gained fifth rank (MS 2.07).

Economic constraints :

First rank was found to the high charges for emergency services (MS 2.31). Second rank was given to lack of guidance for available credit facilities (MS 2.23). Less price of cows/buffaloes milk offered by society was assigned as very important constraint as it gained third rank (MS 2.2). Non-provision of loan to

Table 1 : Constraints faced by the women functioning in dairy farming

Sr.No.	Constraints	Mean score	Rank
Infra structure			
1.	Long distance of society from home	2.58	II
2.	Irregular supply of cattle feed	2.30	IV
3.	Location of .A.I. centres at distant places	2.79	I
4.	Non-availability of green fodder throughout the year	2.37	III
5.	Feeding problem to dairy animals during scarcity condition like drought	2.03	V
Technical			
1.	Lack of knowledge about breeding, feeding	2.30	I
2.	Susceptibility of crossbred cows to diseases	2.13	II
3.	Milk of crossbred cows has poor consumer acceptability	2.07	III
4.	Ignorance of farmers about clean milk production	2.03	III
5.	Poor adaptability of cross bred cows in local climate conditions	1.86	V
Socio-psychological			
1.	Excessive burden of work and responsibility	2.37	I
2.	Non-cooperative attitude of family members	2.07	V
3.	Poor perception of cooperative philosophy resulting irregular meetings	2.2	IV
4.	Labour requirement for crossbred animals is more as compared to deshi animals	2.12	IV
5.	Lack of co-ordination and cooperation among members	2.32	II
Economic			
1.	Lack of guidance for available credit facilities	2.23	II
2.	High charges for emerging services	2.31	I
3.	Less price of cows/buffaloes milk offered by society	2.2	III
4.	There is provision of loan to purchase animals	1.95	IV
5.	Irregular and inadequate system of bonus distribution.	1.86	V
Marketing			
1.	Easy selling of milk to the vendors as compared to society	2.44	I
2.	Low price of milk at society as compared to vendors	2.09	IV
3.	No provision of advance payment as compared to vendors	2.05	V
4.	Door step purchasing system of milk is not available at society	2.22	III
5.	Payment of milk is made only on fat and SNF percentage basis at DCS	2.36	II

Table 2 : Training needs experienced by the women functioning in dairy farming

Sr. No.	Dairy farming practices	Most needed	Needed	Least needed	Rank
1.	Breeding and care	2.30			I
2.	Care of crossbred cows			1.86	III
3.	Timely guidance	2.23			I
4.	Low cost balance feed		2.03		II
5.	Feeding of crossbred cows		2.03		II
6.	Diseases management for crossbred cows		2.13		II
7.	Clean milk production		2.03		II
8.	Milk selling	2.44			I
9.	Milk marketing		2.09		II
10.	Advantages of crossbred cows		2.07		II

purchase animal was found at fourth rank (MS 1.95). The last rank was assigned to irregular and inadequate system of bonus distribution by the members (MS 1.86).

Marketing constraints :

Easy selling of milk to the vendors as compared to society was found at fifth rank (MS 2.44). The second rank was assigned to the payment of milk is made only on fat and SNF percentage basis at society (MS 2.36). Door step purchasing system of milk is not available at society was ranked third (MS 2.22). The fourth rank was assigned to the vendors provide high price to milk as compared to society (MS 2.09). The last rank was assigned to the vendors provide advance payment of milk but societies do not have such provisions by the members (MS 2.05).

Training need :

On the basis of constraints faced by the rural women in dairy farming, following training needs were categorized in Table 2. These needs are arranged as per the rank assigned to the regarding practices.

It was seen from the Table 2, that the areas where

rural women expressed for training needs were selling of milk (MS 2.44), breeding and care of animals (MS 2.30), timely guidance (MS 2.23), diseases control and management (MS 2.13), marketing of milk (MS 2.09) care of crossbred cows (MS 2.07), low cost balance feeding, clean milk production (2.03) and care of crossbred cows in local climate (MS 1.86).

Conclusion :

Findings of the study clearly indicated that the training is essential for rural women to overcome the constraints in performing their major role in dairy farming practices.

Recommendation :

- Similar study can be conducted in other district along with a large number of samples.
- Comparative study between members and non-members of milk producing rural women can be conducted.

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